APPENDIX A

Please replace the Abstract with the following paragraph:

A method for preventing information losses due to network node failure is disclosed. The method comprises the steps of operatively connecting at least one backup node to a primary node, followed by synchronizing the at least one backup node and the primary node. Next, the method comprises receiving, from a first endpoint, ingress traffic in the primary node and replicating the ingress traffic to the at least one backup node. Next, the method outputs, from the primary mode, primary egress traffic and outputs, from the at least one backup node, backup egress traffic. The method then determines if the primary node has failed. Then, the method transmits, to a second endpoint, the primary egress traffic if it is determined that the primary node has not failed, and transmits, to the second endpoint, the backup egress traffic from a selected one of the at least one backup nodes if it is determined that the primary node has failed.

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